

Message Text

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43

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FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6946

UNCLAS HONG KONG 10715

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INDOCHINESE REFUGEES

REF: (A) HONG KONG 10077; STATE 210290

1. OUR MOVEMENT OF QUALIFIED AND CLEARED REFUGEES TO CONUS IS PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY BUT WE NOW FIND THAT WE ARE PERIOLOUSLY CLOSE TO OUR CEILING OF 1300 REFUGEES AND THAT THERE REMAINS A SIZEABLE GROUP OF QUALIFIED REFUGEES WHOM WE WILL BE UNABLE TO MOVE UNLESS THE HONG KONG QUOTA IS INCREASED AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL A.

2. WE HAVE MOVED 932 REFUGEES TO CONUS SINCE JULY 22 AND THERE ARE AN ADDITIONAL 366 ELIGIBLE AND CLEARED PERSONS READY TO TRAVEL. THE MOVEMENT OF THIS GROUP WILL BRING OUR TOTAL NUMBER OF MOVEMENTS TO 1298; THAT IS TWO PERSONS SHORT OF OUR QUOTA OF 1300.

3. THERE ARE 711 OTHERS WHOSE CLEARANCES ARE PENDING AND APPROXIMATELY THREE HUNDRED ADDITIONAL WHO HAVE SUBMITTED CLAIMS TO ELIGIBILITY BUT WHOSE CASES HAVE NOT BEEN REVIEWED. BY THE REFERENCE HONG KONG CABLE WE REQUESTED THAT OUR QUOTA BE INCREASED TP 2400 TO C OPE WITH THE EVER GROWING NUMBER OF QUALIFIED REFUGEES. AUTHORIZATION FOR THE INCREASE IS NEEDED SOONEST SO THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO MOVE ELIGIBLE REFUGEES AND PERMIT ICEM TO SCHEDULE THEIR MOVEMENT BY THE MOST INEXPENSIVE MEANS.

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